Sl. No.	State	Production (Rs. Crores)	% Share	Rank	Total	SSI	Employment
9.	Madhya Pradesh	652	2.35	10	49	29	9500
10.	Manipur	1	0.01	22	1	—	50
11.	Meghalaya	—	0.01	23	1	—	100
12.	Orissa	46	0.17	18	12	6	2500
13.	Punjab	568	2.05	11	58	43	9000
14.	Rajasthan	503	1.81	12	89	68	10000
15.	Uttar Pradesh	6035	21.75	1	212	141	57000
16.	West Bengal	493	1.78	13	165	136	13000
	TOTAL	13390			1374	1081	174300
Southern States							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1183	4.26	8	178	143	26000
2.	Goa	126	0.45	15	12	5	800
3.	Karnataka	4775	17.21	3	379	301	68000
4.	Kerala	1152	4.15	9	88	56	12500
5.	Maharashtra	5487	19.77	2	871	721	64000
6.	Pondicherry	17	0.06	19	11	10	400
7.	Tamil Nadu	1620	5.84	5	284	224	19000
	TOTAL	14360			1823	1460	190700

Position of India in IT

3716. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the India's position in the field of Information Technology;

(b) the average number of internet connections per hundred population in India in comparison to the developed countries of the world; and

(c) the details of the action being taken to make internet easily accessible in the country, particularly in the rural and semi-urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI *PRAMOD MAHAJAN*): (a) In respect of IT penetration benchmarks such as number of computers, internet connections, internet gateway bandwidth etc., in comparison to the population, India is far below the standards of developed countries even though India as a nation is growing in terms of its ability to provide skilled manpower to the world in areas of IT software and services.

(b) The average number of internet connections per hundred population in India is over 0.25. The figures for England, Europe and America are estimated to be around 5 to 30.

(c) The Government has taken several steps to improve internet access. The steps taken in this regard are given in Annexure.

Interim report of the Task Force on HRD in IT

3717. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Interim Report of the Task Force on the Human Resource Development in Information Technology has expressed concern over the "quality" of I.T. Graduates and their "low acceptance" by the Industry which would result in "under employment" and "other serious repercussions" as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 23rd January, 2001;

(b) whether in order to identify this as a "thrust area" Government propose to launch an "IT Faculty Development Initiative" on a crash basis to address this problem and also propose to create a "Faculty Development Fund"; and

(c) what is at present teacher-student ratio for IT courses as against AICTE relaxed norms of 1:15?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Interim Report of the Task Force on Human Resource Development (HRD) in IT has recommended an investment of Rs. 2000 crores (which includes Faculty Development Initiative) over